Where to Go for Help

For copies of prioritization resources mentioned in this brochure, or for other waste minimization information, contact:

- The RCRA hotline at 800 424-9346 or TDD 800 553-7672.
- http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/ minimize

For technical assistance, contact:

- The National Pollution Prevention Roundtable's P2 Hotline at 888 745-7272.
- http://www.epa.gov/envirosense/nppr

A Member of Partners for the **Environment**

he Waste Minimization National Plan is part of EPA's Partners for the **Environment**. The program works with small and large businesses, citizens' groups, and other organizations to incorporate pollution prevention as a central consideration in doing business. The programs set reachable environmental goals, such as conserving water and energy and reducing toxic emissions and solid wastes. These voluntary efforts are achieving measurable environmental results often more quickly and with lower costs than

traditional regulatory approaches.

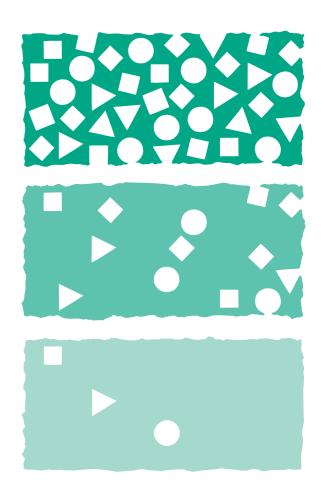


United States Environmental Protection EPA530-F-97-010 September 1997 http://www.epa.gov

Solid Waste and Emergency Response



Waste **Minimization National Plan Reducing Toxics** In Our Nation's Waste





What Is the Waste Minimization **National Plan?**

he **Waste Minimization National Plan** is a long-term national effort to reduce the quantity and toxicity of hazardous wastes. The goals of the National Plan are to:

- Reduce by **50 percent** the most persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic (PBT) chemicals in the nation's hazardous waste by the vear 2005, as compared to the baseline year of 1991.
- Emphasize **source** reduction (reducing waste at its source, before it is even generated) and environmentally sound recycling, over waste treatment and disposal.



Prevent transfers of chemical releases from one medium (air, water, or land) to another.

Why Minimize Waste?

- To Reduce Costs
- To Reduce Impacts of RCRA Requirements
- To Improve Human Health and the Environment
- To Exhibit Environmental Leadership
- To Build Better Community Relations

Why Target PBT Chemicals?

educing the presence of PBT chemicals in waste will reduce long-term threats to human health and the environment.

- **Persistent (P)** chemicals generally do not break down in the environment.
- Bioaccumulative (B) chemicals tend to concentrate in animal and plant tissue.
- Highly Toxic (T) chemicals can cause cancer or other health effects in humans, and greatly endanger the environment.

What Resource is Available to Help **Identify PBT Chemicals and Set Priorities?**

The Waste Minimization Prioritization Tool (WMPT) is a flexible Windowsbased software system that provides relative rankings of chemicals according to their persistence, bioaccumulation potential, and human and ecological toxicity. It allows you to rank specific chemicals based on PBT and chemical quantity.

Using the Chemical-Waste Code Crosswalk function, the Tool also allows you to identify which RCRA waste codes potentially contain PBT chemicals.

EPA will use the Tool to identify a subset of ranked chemicals with which to track and report national waste minimization progress.

Other Resources:

State and local environmental agencies, public and private sector technical assistance centers, trade associations, and product suppliers are all sources of specific technical assistance. (See reverse for addresses and phone numbers.)

As a Waste Generator, How Can I Make the Plan a Reality?

Supporting the Plan

- ✓ Set your own waste minimization goals.
- Develop a plan for achieving your goals.
- ☑ Measure your progress along the way.
- ☑ Identify the most PBT chemicals in your
- Determine which processes in your facility generate PBT waste.
- Research and select source reduction and recycling alternatives to eliminate or reduce these chemicals.